

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0078] with the following amended paragraph:

[0078] FIG. 8 illustrates an example of an allocation method used to allocate transactions according to various embodiments of the invention. In these embodiments, several attempts are made to allocate transactions and the additional attempts are configured to allocate transactions that were unallocated, under-allocated or over-allocated in a first attempt. The method of FIG. 8 includes using Hierarchical Data Structure 700 to allocate transactions that were unallocated, over-allocated or under-allocated transactions in a previous attempt at allocation. In an Access Leaf Rules Step 810, generated allocation rules stored in Rule Data 150 and associated with Leaf Nodes ~~720A-720H~~ 730A-730N are accessed using Query Engine 170. Leaf Nodes ~~720A-720H~~ 730A-730N are associated with business objects configured to receive transaction allocations. In some embodiments, Access Leaf Rules Step 810 is analogous to Access Rules Step 530 (FIG. 5) except that only generated allocation rules associated with business objects configured to receive transaction allocations are accessed.

Please replace paragraph [0084] with the following amended paragraph:

[0084] In Access Non-Leaf Rules Step 870, Allocation Manager 190 is used to access generated allocation rules associated with Root Node 710 and Intermediate nodes 720A-720H. In some embodiments, this step is analogous to Access Leaf Rules Step 810 except that the accessed generated allocation rules are not necessarily associated with business objects ~~configure~~ configured to receive transaction allocations.